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A FAMILY NEWSPAPER: NEUTRAL IN POLITICS.

CLUBS—FOR TERMS TO CLUBS SEE PROSPECTUS ON NEXT PAGE.

DEVOTED TO MORALITY, PURE LITERATURE, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC NEWS, AGRICULTURE, THE COMMERCIAL INTEREST, SCIENCE, ART AND AMUSEMENT.

VOLUME XXXIV. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1855. WHOLE NO. 1752.

Original Poem.

RAIN-DAYS.

AN OLD MAN'S MUSINGS.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST, BY ELIZA L. SPROAT.

It is not often that we publish so long a poem as the following; but its interesting beauty, and deep feeling and reference of New Forma's production, will, we think, be considered warrant for its insertion, as all readers who love poetry.—*Editor Saturday Evening Post.*]

Warm spring rains, bloom-bearing, slip to earth,
Like tender mother mourn over buried hope;
Another summer must come hurrying down,
With its great earth crash from its sorcery
To call forth drooping, and shrinking, pulping rust,
And the forests—dark still misery, and the
Of old Spring freshness; all bodily
Must wear change cheerfully; but I, within,
Am from chrysalis, while the outside night
Of my being deepens, and the cold, lingering, purging
Of my decaying frames and weakness.

What can I
Do glad of old spring freshness?

Rain-days!
Your gray old wandering wind passes sighing by,
Laden of memory and regretfulness, imparted—as
Doing on the correspondence earth,
Calling, sending, pleading, not one flower
Of the clay remains on the earth then dead?
Not one, from dust was found
Then one sun spring's flower, but left on mood
Of my inner bosom, not a flower died
Opened, stood by shook, but lovely grace down,
Of my self made of them but letters sweet
Not a leaf, but is buried!
Not one flower of old spring freshness!

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Our Correspondents

REMARKS ON "PRAIRIE LEAVES."

[illegible] Chicago, Ill., [illegible] Leaves, in the issue of the Evening Post of the 15th inst. I do not wish to [illegible] criticise, but I do wish to say a few words in reply to the strictures made upon the location of Lowton. The location must be considerably further West than Western Indiana, and I will give you some of my reasons for forming this opinion.

And first, in regard to the specimens of Western patois which she gives: I was born and bred in Western Indiana, and have never yet heard an individual converse in the manner in which her characters do, and I suppose that the inhabitants of the country, as well as of the villages of this section, use the English language in as pure a form, at the majority of those in the Eastern States.

Your correspondent says, "One hears the words 'our set,' 'our clique,' 'the ton,' and aristocracy, oftener here in a week, than in a whole Philippic is being" about places of Theatricals still not apply to this place. I never heard those expressions used in conversation, we have no aristocracy here to my knowledge, and as to the "parties" which she speaks of, I never was acquainted with any such: the poorest here can visit the richest if they wish, and consider it not very much promulgated to my knowledge.

She also says, "The richest of them will keep their children from some of the cities study, rather than buy a book, or pay a dollar extra for tuition."

Such a one has never come under my observation: the children of most, if not all of the families are sent to school, and they can study anything they wish, provided their parents are able to pay for their tuition.

I am of the opinion that very many of the persons here think more of having their children educated, than they do of the "almighty dollar."

We also have an account of the homes of one of the rich men, which I suppose she intended as a fair sample of the rest: I never saw a house here in which the farming utensils, harness, &c., were hung in the porch.

I will give you a description of the residence of one of our wealthy residents, which you can construct it with the house of "one of the richest men of Grovetown," and see how much resemblance there is between them.

This house is a frame one, with a parlor, dining room, two bed-rooms, a small bed-room used as a saddle-room, and another used for keeping flour in, a porch (and I assure you they do not keep the farming utensils, &c., in it) with a small bed-room in one end, and a portion on the first floor; and one large, and two small rooms, [illegible] used as bed-rooms, all in the second.

In one of the "Prairie Leaves," some time back, the[illegible] spoke as if calico was a scarce article in that part of the country: I assure you it is not a scarce article here, as it is the most common article of dress seen among the fair sex here.

I do not suppose the author of "Prairie Leaves," had the location of her certainly very curious country near this section of the West, but as I did not know but what some of the readers of the Post might suppose that the "Leaves" were a fair picture of life through the whole of the West, I thought I would make a few remarks, in order to prevent any one receiving such an erroneous idea. I do not think there can be much society such as your correspondent describes, east of the Mississippi, and I think it rather doubtful if there is much such in any of the States west of that river. I would recommend to the author the propriety of informing the readers of the Post in what part of the West she locates her "Leaves."

Evansville, Ind. HOOSIER.

Clippings.

☞ Yankee Doe.—"I say, stranger," said a rough-spoken, in the neighborhood of Montreal, Canada, to a Yankee peddler, "don't whistle that d—d song." "Why, for no sin I see, no how—don't see how honestly." "Oh, but he cares longer of work." "How?" "Why, he lacks the plates and dishes, and so that we wouldn't part with him nohow; for our new dog can't howl in another key, you see."

☞ A telegraphic despatch says:—Admiral Dundas has gone home. He is to be succeeded by Sir Edmund Lyons. We have no pieces of information we reply, that we are glad to learn that somebody is going to succeed to something.

☞ To make home lay perpetually, let them on the head with a big club. Other modes have been recommended, but this is the only one we have found effective.

☞ Effects of the Fall.—I am afraid, Frederick," said Mrs. Smith, to her husband, "that Bridget is dishonest." "What makes you think so?" "Why, I gave her seven apples to prepare for a pudding, and will you believe it, I counted over the quarters, and only found twenty-seven." "Are you sure that you counted right?" "Yes, for I counted them over three times carefully. The world is full of iniquity!" Betsey was discharged without a character.

☞ To suffer for having acted well, is itself a species of redemption.

☞ Wreaking of the "Mary Law."—The Fortune Teller, has heretofore had from 80 to 100 convicts. Now it has but 69. The cause for this decline in business is, the rigid enforcement of the law against the sale of spirituous liquors. The jails in the State are in a still worse state of decline, many of them being without tenants, and "to let." The "drought" has had a sensible effect upon the crop of crime there, as well as upon the crop of corn.

☞ In a Tight Place.—President of a Western bank wishes to be his friend—Cheerily, can't you give me change for a dollar? I am the Bank Superintendent is in town, and I want some specie in the vault to make a show."

☞ When you shall contemplate necessity struggling with modesty, endeavor to relieve it in a way that shall meet the wish half way, and save the blush of request.

☞ A form of prayer has been issued by an English Bishop, which requests the Lord to relieve the soldiers "from the evils of the Christ," while engaged in slaying their enemies.

☞ Good Advice.—Always have a pencil and a piece of paper by you. Dr. Johnson said that many of his best thoughts were lost, because he was too lazy to go into his study and hunt up a little foolscap.

☞ A jocose old gentleman told his sons not to go, under any circumstances, to fishing on the Sabbath; but if they did, to all events *to bring home the fish.*

☞ Rejected Coffee.—The Portsmouth Journal tells the story of a man who called on his wife to reduce his coffee with burnt peas from day to day, until he should decide to adopt the mixture was impalatable. The first day, when he expected pure coffee, she gave him all peas. The next day, "one-half peas, one-half coffee." The next, "one-quarter coffee, three-quarters peas." The next, "one-eighth coffee, seven-eighths peas." The next, "a mere coffee-scent, with peas enough for keeping time in a band." The next, "peas enough to make a noise in the pot." The next, "peas and water." The next, "water." The next, "empty pot." The next, "a dun for the coffee bill."

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☞ Boston Lion.—Lucky is the man and foreigner, Gnome Reaction from all accounts.

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SATURDAY

EVENING POST.

PHILADELPHIA:

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1856.

A DAILY PAPER.

TERMS, &c.

The terms of The Post are as follows, to wit:

1 Year.....$5,00 Per Annum.
6 " (and one to the getter up of the Club,).....10,00 "
12 " (and one to the getter up of the Club,).....18,00 "
20 " (and one to the getter up of the Club,).....25,00 "

Persons desirous of having the Saturday Evening Post sent to their friendly readers, in the country, can have the subscription price, as above, by sending the money to the Post Office in the United States postage.

Agencies to Clubs.—Any person having occasion for a number of papers for a Club, may address us to that effect, and the club accordingly will be supplied.

Post-Masters or others sending for Clubs, would confer a favor by having them send to our address, when they can do so conveniently.

The papers to Clubs are to be discontinued at the expiration of the period for which they are subscribed for.

A New Arrangement.—Our subscribers will please take notice that we now have no collecting agents, out of this State. They will therefore please remit to us direct.

All persons addressing letters to us should be careful to give the name of the State, as well as of the town, in which they live. *All letters must be post paid.*

Subscribers wishing their paper changed, will please give the name of the Post-Office to be changed From, as well as the Post-Office to which it hereafter sent to.

We trust that each of our old friends the Post-Masters, as do not feel inclined to take advantage of our liberal offers themselves, will use their influence to induce other industrious and responsible persons who will be willing to raise clubs, &c.

OUR NOVELETS.

We had designed commencing "The Fall of the Wyalusing" at the close of "The Minister's Choice;" but as it is tolerably long, and we desire to publish pretty full instalments in each number, we think it perhaps is wisest, not to begin it until the conclusion of Mrs. Southworth's story.

In the meantime we have a story by Miss the pen and refreshingly well-spiced with humor, beauty, by returning to Nature, to whom all are inexorably forced to return at last. When, for instance, could the world find more faithful tale models than in the entire blossom of the early west of love, and its appropriate sequel, the rose-colored bells of the trailing arbutus, half hidden among its beautiful leaves, or in the graceful lilies and tender coloring of the spring beauty? or what could furnish him with more perfect models than the fruited vines of our woodlands, the scolloped foliage of the sugar maple, or the rich tracery of the Rosaceæ ivy, which, in the autumn will be clad in crimson, and amber and green, so richly mingled and blended as to defy the skill of man, and power, and the sun brings land, negroes, and

SATURDAY
EVENING POST.
PHILADELPHIA:
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1854.

Congressional News

THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS.
SECOND SESSION.

SENATE.

On the 20th, Mr. Shields presented a petition from citizens of Providence, R. I., in favor of issuing depreciation certificates, instead of scrip, and he moved to refer it to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Sumner also introduced a bill to secure the wages of seamen employed in the merchant service, and the preservation of their health, and for other purposes.

Mr. Rusk introduced a bill to secure the wages of seamen employed in the merchant service, and the preservation of their health, and for other purposes.

Mr. Mason introduced a bill to amend the several acts providing for the payment of the Judges of the United States.

Mr. Bayard called up the bill reported by the Finance Committee, providing for the payment of the claims of the people of Louisiana for interest on the proceeds of the sales of the public lands.

Mr. Pearce called up the bill reported by the Committee on the Judiciary, providing for the appointment of a Judge of the Circuit Court of the United States in California, which was discussed.

The Senate then, on motion of Mr. Pettit, took up the bill fixing the salaries of the Associate Judges of the United States.

The bill was discussed by Messrs. Fitzpatrick, Pettit, Seward, Mallory, Clayton, Bell and Gwinn, and finally postponed.

After some discussion of the Indian Appropriation Bill, the Senate adjourned.

On the 21st, Mr. Douglas reported the bill from the Committee on Territories, providing for the organization of the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas, which was ordered to be printed.

Several bills were passed, making appropriations for fortifications for the harbors of Boston and New York.

After the consideration of various Appropriation Bills, the Senate adjourned.

On the 22d, Mr. Douglas reported the bill from the Committee on Territories, providing for the organization of the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas, which was ordered to be printed.

The consideration of the bill was then resumed, and the debate continued.

On the 23d, the Senate was chiefly occupied in the consideration of the Nebraska bill.

On the 24th, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Nebraska bill, and it was decided by the following vote—Yeas 33, Nays 15—that the bill be reported to the Committee.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the 20th, the House proceeded to the voting in order to the election of Speaker, which resulted in the election of the Hon. Nathaniel P. Banks, the Democratic candidate, receiving 103 votes, and the Hon. Mr. Orr, the Democratic candidate, receiving 100 votes.

On the 21st, Mr. Bocock, from the Naval Committee, reported a bill to provide for the more efficient discipline of the Navy.

Mr. Bocock explained the necessity for the bill, and it was discussed by Messrs. Hall, Stanton, Bocock, Cobb, Faulkner, Hibbard, Ruffin,

Selected Poetry.

LEILA, OR, THE PERJURED BRIDE

[The following poem, by the late Mrs. Sigourney, is one of the latest of her productions, and is not included in any collection of her works.]

"This golden head," at maiden life laid
Pillow'd its beauty on the lover's breast,
While all the void of Heav'n night,
In dazzling beauty sparkled my sight!
"Thou art mine own," the fond youth cried,
As mantra entered on Sabbatical rest!
Quick—quick!" the frightful voice continued,
It binds my heart! I cannot breathe,
Ah, hence my child!—earth demands thee!
Then pleasure on my joyous breast,
Beside him, a pale—bright hair—and
It shake my life-blood—let me rest!
Wake from my dream this hateful vision!—
No! I am free! I breathe again.
Free, did I say? Ah! wretched wife!
Retorter on frenzied woman, mine!
Thy vows are broken!
Thy soul is wedded to perjury!
Free, did I say? Hark! I am given
Where'er my footsteps wander, thought
Of the former that may serve to stress,
I call this father's bed thrice to me!
Have I not spoken words, whose power
If he is indestructive charm,
Lasting as from first fatal hour,
To thousand, never—never part!
Ah, no! 'Twas not the grave to sever
The blessed vow—the golden bonds—
In lovers' hearts God seals them!
Oh, softly, tread it under the breeze
I see music through the unconscious trees
And radiant as I to memory's eye,
The silver veil descends—I see
Those, Intercessor, and Hope, and Truth,
Linked with the guileless Love of Youth—
A holy band—all—all—
And thou be with their angel eyes
Is it a whispering world,
I hear their voices, unperturbed,
Their footsteps on the golden floor!
Of my home perfect purity—
A daughter's claim, nor any wife!
A paternal—and of mercy, and
And an earth of beauty new,
Whence not with perverted heart
And from its found bound the while,
The gathering of the Spirit!
Smile on me with a mocking smile,
When there have passed on me to me!
Ah! writer the luminous hand
Which I have traced—the words I see
Are written there in characters of fire!
Ah, no! I am not the weary eye—
I did not hear the laughter—
And when I have smiled—no strange—
Strange, I know it—I know it well,
I only saw the gleaming pall—
And not the weaver's hand.
Wake and move near the silent grave,
My fair daughter, and thou art gone!
High sacrifice the unwavering of pride!
Remorse and woes—revealing still!
Lover's pleading accents I disdain!
Ah, no! I do not—I do not—
I took that form with glittering crown—
I perceived it in such a fashion—
Flung from my heart the Pure, the Fair—
And clasped a golden fetter—mine!

Home Journal

Selected Articles.

THE ARTIFICIAL PRODUCTION OF FISH.

The cultivation of fish is a subject that is receiving increased attention, and it would appear strange if the raising of fish in this country should become so important as that of other business. The facilities for so doing are such as are rarely enjoyed elsewhere, and it seems as though it were only necessary to give a little information bearing a practical bearing on the subject to produce the requisite number of hands and ponds with an excellent article of food, in great abundance. Scientific men have already started many interesting inquiries. Such a discussion before the New York Farmers' Club, not long ago, elicited the following statement:

"Many experiments have been made, terminating in entire success, showing that the fry or kinds of fish, such as pickerel, trout, pike and bream, can be transported in wet moss, packed in wood with little trouble, in vast numbers. The spawn, or eggs, can be taken from the female fish in October and brought in this country. The freezing-up properties from the male fish can also be brought, preserved in the same way, of say of our rivers, lakes or ponds, and will produce fish in vast numbers. Out of a single codfish, 150,000 eggs have been taken, and of a pickerel 45,000. These eggs, preserved from destruction, would soon fill a river or pond with fresh water fish. One man in the State of New York has right artificial ponds, in which he has cultivated fish of the best kinds, and the increase is almost incredibly rapid. The fish in his ponds become so tame as to come to his call, and eat out of his hand. The fish are called to their dinners by the ringing of a bell. Those who have lived in hotels, and seen the scampering the dinner-bell produces among the boarders, can form some idea of the scampering through the waters, produced by the bell of this fish-feeder. Both of the wild pickerel will take food from his hand. The waste in feeding fish is very small. It is stated ten pounds of food fed to fish, will produce nine pounds of fish. They can live and do well on very little food, but by liberal feeding will become very large and fat.

"The reason why fish rot to produce so faster in their natural state, is said to be the destruction of the greater portion of the spawn deposited in open natural places. Were this destruction prevented, they will increase with such wonderful rapidity as to fill all the waters of the country.

"A French gentleman stated, that at an expense of three or four hundred dollars, he could make the Susquehanna assert from its source to its mouth, the finest kinds of fish known in Europe or America. The time required would not be more than two or three years. The process consists simply in procuring a few breeding places, where the destruction of the spawn could be prevented, and the young be fed for a few weeks.

We noticed in a Cleveland paper an interesting article on this subject, by Dr. Kirtland, which was read before the Cleveland Academy of Science last month. An experiment with salmon in the artificial breeding of fish, is described with minuteness. A dam was built across a fine large spring of water, and the exclusion of the fish (trout) which were procured from Lake Superior, and transported in cans of nearly 100 miles, in good condition. This was done in August, and in November following the fish commenced depositing their eggs. The eggs were ripe to be deposited, by removing all the sediment and sand from gravelly locations. These beds were about one foot in diameter, consisting of coarse and fine pebbles.

Dr. G. says:—

"On the 20th of November, they had fairly commenced operations, one pair of fishes occupying each bed, the male manifesting the utmost jealousy and if any one of the other kind approached, he was instantaneously attacked and driven off. On the 24th, I found about a pair by means of a leaning net, and placed them in a bucket of water, and being prepared with an artificial vessel, I carefully pressed the female so artificially spawning and impregnating the eggs. This was accomplished as follows:

"I partially filled the earthen vessel with water, and taking the female in my left hand, and making gentle pressure on her abdomen with my right, the eggs were soon ejected. The earthen vessel containing the water; the male was treated in precisely the same manner, fanning the eggs with his tail. In most instances; the appearance of the eggs was almost immediately changed from their original pale orange color to pale transparent yellow; they were then placed in running water with the vessel containing them.

By the 22nd of January the young fish began to leave their cells—the temperature of the water varying from 42 to 50 degs. Fahrenheit. One fact is considered to be clearly demonstrated, viz:

"Every one who may be so fortunate as to possess a spring of water of moderate size, can lose their throwing fish in great numbers, and the streams that have been depopulated by the imbibing zeal of the angler, can be replenished with a little trouble, and at a small expense. Such streams can be easily suited to trout, can be stocked with other choice varieties of fish with the same ease."

Dr. G. concludes his article with a few words to those who may wish to repeat the experiment, as follows:

"The attempt should only be made when the eggs are mature; to be secure in this, it will be best, for the beginner to take the parent fishes when they are engaged in depositing the eggs. After the eggs are forced into the vessel containing the water poured off, and the vessel filled again before the spermatic fluid is added, after which the water should be poured off again, in order that it may come in contact with all the eggs. This is necessary to the impregnation of all of them. They should then be placed where they can have running water constantly passing over them. This can be done by having a series of boxes partly filled with water and gravel, each placed below the other in the form of a stairway, the water passing from the first box to the second, and so on. It would also be well to have the bottoms of the boxes pierced with small holes, in order to prevent the sediment from accumulating, which is very destructive to the eggs.

These general rules, if followed, will be sure to crown the effort with success."

HOW MUCH THIS COUNTRY OWES.

It is a favorite boast of the American, that their government is almost the only one in the civilized world, which is not deeply plunged in debt. So far as this boast relates to the United States, in its federal capacity, it is well founded. But so far as it relates to the thirty-one Commonwealths, of which the nation is composed, it is an absolute absurdity, since the majority of these latter are deeply, if not inextricably in debt. We hear this bit of braggadocio so frequently, that it is useful, while to devote a few moments to show its folly.

In England, France, Austria and all other consolidated nations, there is but one exchequer to meet every want of the nation—one